



# Standards & Assessment NOTES

California Department of Education  
Jack O'Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

July 2004

## Standardized Testing and Reporting Program (STAR)

### Amendments Proposed for Title 5 Regulations

Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations is being amended for the STAR Program. The amendments presented at the July State Board of Education (SBE) meeting better align the STAR, CAHSEE, and CELDT regulations. A substantive amendment to the STAR regulations would extend the use of below-grade-level testing for an additional year and expand its use to pupils with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) in grades three and four. The proposed amendments will be circulated for public review and comment after the board meeting with a public hearing tentatively scheduled for September 7.

### Revisions Proposed for Testing Variation Matrix

Revisions for the Testing Variation Matrix that includes examples of accommodations and modifications for pupils with IEPs and 504 Plans, as well as test administration variations for English learners, were presented at the July SBE meeting. The revisions are being proposed to provide consistency in allowable variations across all state testing programs, as well as to ensure that the matrix is congruent with the Title 5 regulations for the state testing programs.

### Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) 2005 Testing Schedules

The 2004–05 testing dates for the STAR Program are posted on the California Department of Education (CDE) Web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/testdates0405.asp>.

## 2004 STAR Reports

The STAR Report Package has been modified for the 2004 administration. The changes in the reports include:

- Adding the results for pupils assessed with the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) to the Student Master List. Previously this report included only the California Standards Test (CST) and California Achievement Tests, Sixth Edition Survey (CAT/6 Survey) results.
- Adding CAPA summary information to the Student Master List Summary and the Subgroup Summary Reports.
- Replacing the previous STAR Performance Report for individual students with a new STAR Student Report. This new report will have a similar format for reporting both the CST–CAT/6 Survey and the CAPA results. Districts will receive multi-colored reports to forward to parents/guardians. Schools will receive black and white copies of the reports for the students' current teachers.

Districts will begin receiving the 2004 STAR reports about the second week of July, and most districts should receive all reports by August 6. Each district will receive a minimum of four report shipments:

- Student Master List, cumulative record labels, and summary reports
- CST–CAT/6 Survey Student Reports
- CAPA Student Reports
- California Reports for Teachers

Districts should receive the Student Reports no more than two to three weeks after receiving Student Master Lists and cumulative record labels. Districts are required to forward the multi-colored student reports to parents/guardians within 20 working days of when the districts receive them. Districts should receive the California Reports for Teachers by early October.

Districts and schools will receive a folder of translation guides with the STAR Student Reports. These guides provide word-for-word translations of some of the report sections and general information about other sections. The guides may be copied and distributed to parents/guardians to help them understand the information in the reports. The translation guides are provided in English, Spanish, Chinese, Hmong, Korean, Tagalog (Pilipino), and Vietnamese.

Districts that had multiple administration periods to accommodate multi-track schools and programs will receive a shipment of Student Master Lists and cumulative record labels for each administration period. The summary reports will be included with the information for each district's final administration period.

### **Student Data File Layouts**

The 2004 Student Data File Layouts are posted at [www.startest.org](http://www.startest.org). Separate layouts are posted for the CSTs–CAT/6 Survey and the CAPA results. The length of the student records in the data files has been significantly reduced to make them more manageable for districts.

### **California Reports for Teachers**

While districts will not receive the California Reports for Teachers until early October, district administrators are reminded that any report generated for a specific teacher is a confidential document. The California Reports for Teachers will be delivered to schools in sealed envelopes addressed to the individual teachers. Only the teachers to whom the envelopes are addressed are to receive them. The information in these reports is not to be used as any part of the teachers' evaluations.

The California Reports for Teachers by grade level or math course for grades eight through eleven will not be in sealed envelopes. Schools/test sites will receive a sufficient number of copies of the grade level and math

course reports to distribute to all teachers who taught the grade level or math course during the 2003–04 school year.

### **Public Release of 2004 STAR Results**

The 2004 STAR results for schools, school districts, counties, and the state will be released to the public on Monday, August 16 at <http://star.cde.ca.gov>. District STAR coordinators will receive a logon and password to review the Internet reports for their districts prior to the public release.

### **Corrections for STAR 2004 Demographic Data**

The CDE Policy and Evaluation Division posted information regarding incorrect data submitted in district pre-ID files. By mid-September, districts will receive information regarding the process and charges for making data corrections. Districts will be able to submit their corrections during September and October. The data corrections will be reflected in the final Internet file that will be posted in early December.

### **Locating Web Site Information**

Improvements to the CDE Web site, [www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov), include the addition of a search box located in the upper right corner of the screen. Most documents are accessible by typing in key words and/or related phrases. For example, typing in "Grade 4 and 7 Writing Test," "CST blueprints," "STAR apportionment," or "CAPA" will bring up pages from which related documents can be located. More information about the STAR Program is available at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr> on the Internet.

#### **More Information...**

For more information and/or questions regarding the STAR Program, contact the California Department of Education at [STAR@cde.ca.gov](mailto:STAR@cde.ca.gov) (e-mail) or at (916) 445-8765 (phone).